

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /072 W  
-----092232Z 001149 /75

R 091248Z JUN 77

FM AMCONSUL BELFAST  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1696  
INFO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
USNAVCOMMSTA LONDONDERRY

UNCLAS BELFAST 192

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PINS, PINT, UK, EI  
SUBJECT: TERRORISM: GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO INTENSIFY  
ANTI-TERRORIST CAMPAIGN

1. IN PRESS CONFERENCE STORMONT JUNE 8 SECRETARY OF STATE  
ROY MASON ANNOUNCED NEW MEASURES TO INTENSIFY CAMPAIGN AGAINST  
TERRORISM, PARTICULARLY PROVISIONAL IRA TERRORISM, IN PROVINCE.  
MR. MASON ACKNOWLEDGED, THAT, DESPITE DECLINE IN TERRORIST  
INCIDENTS AND SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN ARRESTS AND CONVICTIONS,  
PEOPLE OF NORTHERN IRELAND WERE DISSATISIFIED WITH PROGRESS OF  
SECURITY FORCES. MEASURES INCLUDED: (A) MORE SPECIALIST TROOPS  
FOR "SAS-TYPE (SPECIAL AIR SERVICE) ACTIVITIES" (B) ROYAL  
ULSTER CONSTABULARY (RUC) WOULD SOON HAVE 10 DIVISIONAL  
MOBILE SUPPORT UNITS (300 MEN, 60 VEHICLES) FULLY OPERATIONAL,  
(C) STRENGTH FULL-TIME ULSTER DEFENSE REGIMENT (UDR) WILL BE  
INCREASED BY 700, MAKING 2500 "PROFESSIONALS" ON DUTY,  
(D) PROPOSALS TO ENACT LAWS INCREASING PENALTY FOR CONSPIRACY  
TO MURDER FROM 20 YEARS TO LIFE, FOR EXPLOSIVES OFFENSES (BOMB  
MAKING) FROM 20 YEARS TO LIFE AND MEMBERSHIP IN PROSCRIBED  
ORGANIZATIONS FROM FIVE TO TEN YEARS, (E) INCREASE OF RUC  
STRENGTH (EVENTUALLY) BY 1200 TO 6500, (F) FREEING OF 200  
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POLICEMEN FOR OPERATIONAL DUTY BY REPLACING THEM WITH CIVILIANS  
IN OFFICE DUTIES, (G) RUC TO BE PROVIDED WITH M-1 CARBINES  
AND ARMORED VEHICLES.

2. IN PRESS CONFERENCE AND SUBSEQUENT TELEVISION AND RADIO  
INTERVIEWS MR. MASON STRESSED THAT NEW MOVES FOLLOWED  
SUGGESTIONS BY REPRESENTATIVE GROUPS PUT IN "CONSTITUTIONAL

MANNER." HE DENIED THAT RECENT LOYALIST GENERAL STRIKE WAS FACTOR AND SAID IAN PAISLEY HAD NOT RPT NOT MADE ONE CONSTRUCTIVE PROPOSAL ON SECURITY MEASURES. SECSTATE EMPHASIZED THAT ROLE OF ARMY AND SECURITY FORCES HAD CHANGED FROM TIME WHEN STREET VIOLENCE REQUIRED MASSIVE NUMBERS OF TROOPS. NEED NOW THAT TERRORISTS ARE "ISOLATED" IS FOR SPECIALLY-TRAINED EXPERTS IN INTELLIGENCE AND COUNTER-TERRORISM OPERATIONS. HE REJECTED NOTION OF REINTRODUCTION DETENTION EVEN ON LIMITED SCALE AND EMPHASIZED INSISTENCE THAT SECURITY FORCES ACT WITHIN THE LAW. HE ALSO CALLED FOR POLITICAL LEADERS TO SUPPORT SECURITY FORCES.

3. LOCAL POLITICIANS GENERALLY WELCOMED MEASURES WITH SPOKESMEN FOR OFFICIAL UNIONISTS AND ALLIANCE PARTIES CLAIMING PORTIONS OF NEW MEASURES AS THEIR PROPOSALS. IAN PAISLEY AND ERNEST BAIRD WELCOMED "ANY" NEW INITIATIVES ON SECURITY, RESERVED "WAIT - AND - SEE" POSITION ON EFFECTIVENESS AND CLAIMED SECURITY MOVES FORCED BY LOYALIST STRIKE. PAISLEY CALLED FOR CAPITAL PUNISHMENT AS ONLY EFFECTIVE DETERRENT AND OFFICIAL UNIONIST LEADER HARRY WEST AGREED WITH HIM. SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC AND LABOUR PARTY (SDLP) WHILE NOT RPT NOT REJECTING PROPOSALS EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN OVER IMPLICATIONS. JOHN HUME IN PARTICULAR DEPLORED APPARENT CONCENTRATION ON PROVISIONAL IRA TERRORISM WHILE OTHER TERRORISTS LARGELY IGNORED. SDLP IS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT "SAS" TYPE ACTIVITIES IN MINORITY COMMUNITIES.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS CONFERENCES, PROGRESS REPORTS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), TERRORISTS, UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Subject:** TERRORISM: GOVERNMENT MEASURES TO INTENSIFY ANTI-TERRORIST CAMPAIGN  
**TAGS:** PINS, PINT, UK, EI, US, (MASON, ROY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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